

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed August 8, 2005, the Examiner noted that claims 1-24 were pending, allowed claims 8, 10-12 and 19-21, and rejected claims 1-7, 9, 13-18 and 22-24. Claims 1, 15, 23 and 24 have been amended, thus, in view of the forgoing claims 1-24 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

On page 2 of the Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 9, 13-18 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. section 112, paragraph 1 for failure to provide a written description. The claims have been amended to track the text of the application found at page 16, line 23 - page 17, line 14 and page 84, lines 7-12. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 15 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Meng. Page 4 of the Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 7, 13, 16 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Meng.

Meng discusses a system that processes forward and backward motion vectors to determine ratios, detects peaks in the ratios and detects a parabolic variance curve to detect a scene change after which the bit stream is fully decoded.

In contrast, the invention of claims 1, 15, 23 and 24 detects a scene change by comparing a function evaluation result with a threshold where the function evaluation result is calculated "only for a frame within a frame group which satisfies a condition that the numbers of bidirectionally predicted regions in consecutive frames are small." The prior art does not teach or suggest such a conditional calculation as a part of scene change detection.

It is submitted that the invention of independent claims 1, 15, 23 and 24 distinguishes over the prior art and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. It is also submitted that claims 8, 10-12 and 19-21 continue to be allowable. It is further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.

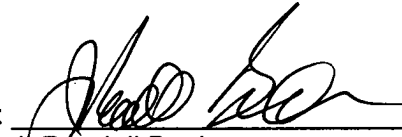
Respectfully submitted,

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1/12/06

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